

SPSO decision report

Case: 201102078, Scottish Prison Service
Sector: Scottish Government and devolved administration
Subject: bullying; victimisation
Outcome: not upheld, no recommendations

Summary

Mr C submitted a confidential complaint to the Governor stating that he had been subjected to verbal abuse by a prison officer on a day in April 2011. He also raised concerns that an officer refused to accept an item of property from his brother following a visit in July. He suspected that both incidents involved the same officer.

The Governor investigated Mr C's concerns about the conduct of the officer but was unable to find evidence to support these allegations and took no further action. Mr C complained to us that his complaint had not been investigated properly and fairly.

In considering this complaint, we contacted the prison and received a copy of their investigation report. The report showed that the unit manager had interviewed Mr C and the officer as part of the investigation, as well as an other prisoner and officer who were in the area of the incident in April. We, therefore, considered that Mr C's complaint about the officer had been properly and fairly investigated and we did not uphold the complaint.